 a front layer having a first density, the front layer having main components including a wood material(s) and a self-curing inorganic material(s);

a back layer having a second density, the back layer having main components including a wood material(s) and a self-curing inorganic material(s); and

a core layer having a third density that is lower in density when compared with said first density and said second density, the core layer having main components including a wood material(s) and a self-curing inorganic material(s);

wherein components of at least said front layer contains a pigment(s) and a water-resistant additive(s), which provides a water-resistant property simultaneously with curing of the self-curing inorganic material(s).

REMARKS

I. Status of claims

Claims 1, 2, and 4-23 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 16, and 18 have been amended. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the above Amendments and the following remarks.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the withdrawal of the rejections based on the prior art of record and respectfully submits that all claims are now in condition for allowance.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 1, 2, and 4-23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed as applied to the pending claims.

The Office Action states that the term “cement curing” lacks antecedent basis and that the phrase “third and lower density” is not clear. Accordingly, these phrases have been deleted from the claims and have been replaced with phrases believed to be clear and definite.

The Office Action additionally states that in claims 12 and 16, the method is unclear because the claimed structure cannot be deducted. Accordingly, claims 12 and 16 have been amended to include additional structure.

Furthermore, applicant notes that the term “cement board” is a material used in construction of the “colored building board”. The “colored building board” is a finished product

produced by the method of the invention. Claims 8, 9, 11, 12, and 16 have been amended to clarify this distinction.

Claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 10, 13-15, 17, and 19-23 depend from independent claims amended above and are also clear and definite. Accordingly applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are clear and definite. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 is therefore respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

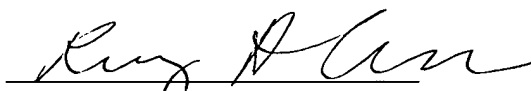
Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims in light of the amendments and the above comments.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version With Markings to Show Changes Made.**"

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that are required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.19-2112 referencing HIAS.96551.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Twice Amended) A colored building board comprising:

a front layer having a first density, the front layer having main components including a wood material(s) and a self-curing inorganic material(s);

a back layer having a second density, the back layer having main components including a wood material(s) and a self-curing inorganic material(s); and

a core layer having a third ~~and lower~~ density that is lower in density when compared with said first density and said second density, the core layer having main components including a wood material(s) and a self-curing inorganic material(s);

wherein at least said front layer contains a pigment(s) and a resin(s), which forms a resin film simultaneously with ~~ement~~ curing of the self-curing inorganic material(s).

2. (Not Amended) The colored building board according to claim 1, wherein said resin(s) is a resin(s) used for mixing with cement.

3. (Cancelled) The colored building board according to claim 1, wherein said water-resistant additives contains at least one of the materials selected from the group consisting of stearate, calcium acrylate, ammonium oleate, asphalt, paraffin, hydroxyethyl cellulose and maleic acid.

4. (Twice Amended) A colored building board comprising:

a front layer having a first density, the front layer having main components including a wood material(s) and a self-curing inorganic material(s);

a back layer having a second density, the back layer having main components including a wood material(s) and a self-curing inorganic material(s);

a core layer having a third ~~and lower~~ density that is lower in density when compared with said first density and said second density, the core layer having main components including a wood material(s) and a self-curing inorganic material(s); and

a resin film on a surface of the front layer;
wherein at least said front layer contains a pigment(s).

5. (Not Amended) The colored building board according to claim 4, wherein said resin film is a resin(s) used for mixing with cement.

6. (Twice Amended) A colored building board comprising:
a front layer having a first density, the front layer having main components including a wood material(s) and a self-curing inorganic material(s);
a back layer having a second density, the back layer having main components including a wood material(s) and a self-curing inorganic material(s); and
a core layer having a third ~~and lower~~ density that is lower in density when compared with said first density and said second density, the core layer having main components including a wood material(s) and a self-curing inorganic material(s);
wherein at least said front layer contains a pigment(s) and an anti-efflorescence agent(s) which produces insoluble salts simultaneously with ~~cement~~ curing of the self-curing inorganic material(s).

7. (Not Amended) The colored building board according to claim 6 wherein said anti-efflorescence agent(s) contains at least one of the materials selected from the group consisting of fluoride, carbonate, polyaminocarboxylic acid and maleic acid.

8. (Twice Amended) A manufacturing method for manufacturing a colored building board by a dry forming process, the method comprising the steps of:
incorporating a pigment(s) and a resin(s) into at least a front layer of [the colored building] a cement board; and
forming a resin film simultaneously with occurrence of a cement curing process.

9. (Twice Amended) A manufacturing method for manufacturing a colored building board by a dry forming process, the method comprising the steps of:
incorporating a pigment(s) and a water-resistant additive(s) into at least a front layer of ~~the colored building~~ a cement board; and

providing a water-resistant property simultaneously with occurrence of a cement curing process.

10. (Not Amended) A manufacturing method for manufacturing a colored building board according to claim 9, wherein said water-resistant additive(s) contains at least one of the materials selected from the group consisting of stearate, calcium acrylate, ammonium oleate, asphalt emulsion, paraffin emulsion, hydroxyethyl cellulose and maleic acid.

11. (Twice Amended) A manufacturing method for manufacturing a colored building board by a dry forming process, the method comprising the steps of:

incorporating a pigment(s) into at least a front layer of ~~the colored building~~ a cement board; and

coating a resin(s) on a molding board to form a resin film on a surface of ~~said colored building~~ the cement board simultaneously with occurrence of a cement curing process.

12. (Twice Amended) A manufacturing method for manufacturing a colored building board by a dry forming process, the method comprising the steps of:

incorporating a pigment(s) into at least a front layer of ~~the colored building board~~ a cement board;

curing the cement board;

coating a resin ~~film~~ on a surface of ~~a cured~~ the cement board; and

drying said resin to form a resin film; and

subjecting the ~~cured~~ cement board to an autoclave maturing process.

13. (Not Amended) A manufacturing method for manufacturing a colored building board according to claim 8, wherein said resin is resin emulsion for mixing with cement.

14. (Not Amended) A manufacturing method for manufacturing a colored building board according to claim 11, wherein said resin is resin emulsion for mixing with cement.

15. (Not Amended) A manufacturing method for manufacturing a colored building board according to claim 12, wherein said resin is resin emulsion for mixing with cement.

16. (Twice Amended) A manufacturing method for manufacturing a colored building board by a dry forming process, the method comprising the steps of:

incorporating a pigment(s) and an anti-efflorescence agent(s) into at least a front layer of ~~the colored building~~ a cement board; and

producing insoluble salts simultaneously with cement curing.

17. (Not Amended) A manufacturing method for manufacturing a colored building board according to claim 16, wherein said anti-efflorescence agent(s) contains at least one of the materials selected from the group consisting of fluoride, carbonate, polyaminocarboxylic acid and maleic acid.

18. (Once Amended) A colored building board comprising:

a front layer having a first density, the front layer having main components including a wood material(s) and a self-curing inorganic material(s);

a back layer having a second density, the back layer having main components including a wood material(s) and a self-curing inorganic material(s); and

a core layer having a third ~~and lower~~ density that is lower in density when compared with said first density and said second density, the core layer having main components including a wood material(s) and a self-curing inorganic material(s);

wherein components of at least said front layer contains a pigment(s) and a water-resistant additive(s), which provides a water-resistant property simultaneously with ~~ement~~ curing of the self-curing inorganic material(s).

19. (Not Amended) The colored building board according to claim 18, wherein said water-resistant additive(s) contains at least one of the materials selected from the group

consisting of stearate, calcium acrylate, ammonium oleate, asphalt, paraffin, hydroxyethyl cellulose and maleic acid.

20. (Not Amended) The colored building board according to claim 1, wherein the first density is substantially the same as the second density.

21. (Not Amended) The colored building board according to claim 4, wherein the first density is substantially the same as the second density.

22. (Not Amended) The colored building board according to claim 6, wherein the first density is substantially the same as the second density.

23. (Not Amended) The colored building board according to claim 18, wherein the first density is substantially the same as the second density.